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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/975,763	10/09/2001	Harry Dwyer	Dwyer 6-14	9497

7590 05/06/2004  
Ryan, Mason & Lewis, LLP  
Suite 205  
1300 Post Road  
Fairfield, CT 06430

EXAMINER

LANE, JOHN A

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2188

DATE MAILED: 05/06/2004

6

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/975,763

Applicant(s)

DWYER ET AL.

Examiner

Jack A Lane

Art Unit

2188

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 April 2004.  
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.  
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.  
7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.  
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office action is responsive to the amendment filed 04/01/04. Claims 1-30 are presented for examination. Any objections or rejections made in the previous office action not specifically repeated below are withdrawn.

2. The examiner requests, in response to this Office action, any reference(s) known to qualify as prior art under 35 U.S.C. sections 102 or 103 with respect to the instant claims. That is, any prior art (including any products embodying the presently claimed invention) similar to the instant claimed invention that could reasonably be used in a 102/103 rejection. This request does not require applicant to perform a search. This request is not intended to interfere with or go beyond that required under 37 C.F.R. 1.56 or 1.105. This request may be fulfilled simply by asking the attorney(s) of record handling prosecution and the inventor(s)/assignee for references qualifying as prior art. A simple statement that the query has been made and no prior art found is sufficient to fulfill the request. Otherwise, the fee and certification requirements of 37 CFR section 1.97 are waived for those documents submitted in reply to this request. This waiver extends only to those documents within the scope of this request under 37 CFR, section 1.105 that are included in the application's first complete communication responding to this requirement. Any supplemental replies subsequent to the first communication

responding to this request and any information disclosures beyond the scope of this request under 37 CFR section 1.105 are subject to the fee and certification requirements of 37 CFR section 1.97. In the event prior art documentation is submitted a discussion of relevant passages, figs. etc. is requested. **A response to this inquiry is greatly appreciated.**

The examiner also requests, in response to this Office action, support be shown for language added to the claims on amendment. That is, indicate support for newly added claim language by specifically pointing to page(s) and line no(s). in the specification and/or drawing figure(s). This will assist the examiner in prosecuting the application.

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. § 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1, 10, 19 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a and/or b) as being anticipated by the admitted prior art found in co-pending related application Ser. No. 09/975,764.

The admitted prior art (pages 1-3 of application 09/975,764) teaches a prior art set associative cache having blocks/frames grouped/mapped into sets of the cache. The cache data is received from main memory. The admitted prior art also teaches the frames/blocks in a set are allocated to a specific task while other frames/blocks in a different set are allocated to a different task.

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of potential 35 U.S.C. § 102(f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

6. Claims 2-9, 11-18, 20-24 and 26-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the admitted prior art found in co-pending related application Ser. No. 09/975,764.

The admitted prior art discussed above in section 4 teaches the invention substantially as claimed. However, Official notice is taken of prior art teaching any claim features not specifically discussed above. That is, any prior art (including that of record) teaching the more well known claim features commonly found in the dependent claims. The claim features, while part of the invention, appear to be well known and their relevance not essential to the main invention found in the independent claim(s). Thus, a detailed discussion of the well known claim features is not warranted at this time. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the admitted prior art with the officially taken prior art given the state of the art at the time the well known claim features were invented.

7. Applicant's arguments filed 04/01/04 have been fully considered but they are not deemed to be persuasive.

In the Remarks, applicant argues:

The admitted prior art does not address the issue of restricting the access of secondary tasks, such that the secondary tasks use *only* said allocated sets of said cache memory.

In response, the admitted prior art cache system allocates “one or more sets of the cache” to “one or more tasks.” The admitted prior art teaches a primary task as discussed on page 1 of the specification in application 09/975764 corresponding to the claimed “one or more tasks.” The claimed “one or more secondary tasks” corresponds to the admitted

prior arts "one or more secondary tasks." The examiner contends the admitted prior arts secondary tasks and primary task for that matter can only use allocated sets of the cache memory. If a given task is using a given block/frame/set it must be allocated only to that task. In other words, any block/frame/set that a given task can access is necessarily allocated to that task.

8. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).

9. A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE TO THIS FINAL ACTION IS SET TO EXPIRE THREE MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS ACTION. IN THE EVENT A FIRST RESPONSE IS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE MAILING DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION AND THE ADVISORY ACTION IS NOT MAILED UNTIL AFTER THE END OF THE THREE-MONTH SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD, THEN THE SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD WILL EXPIRE ON THE DATE THE ADVISORY ACTION IS MAILED, AND ANY EXTENSION FEE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) WILL BE CALCULATED FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THE ADVISORY ACTION. IN NO EVENT WILL THE STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE EXPIRE LATER THAN SIX MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION.

**Any response to this final action should be mailed to:  
Box AF**

Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the  
United States Patent and Trademark Office

PO Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**or faxed to:**

(703) 872-9306, (for Official communications intended for entry)

**Or:**

(703) 872-9306, (for Non-Official or Draft communications, please label "Non-Official" or "DRAFT")

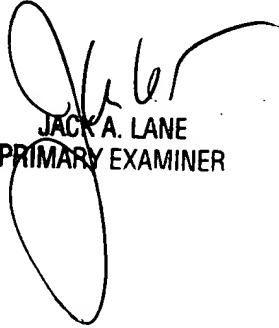
Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jack A. Lane whose telephone number is 703 305-3818. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri from 7:30AM-6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mano Padmanabhan can be reached on 703 306-2903.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703 305-3900.

  
JACK A. LANE  
PRIMARY EXAMINER